Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

30 June 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: June 30, 2006

Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified in southern Lee County near southeastern Sanibel Island and the Caloosahatchee River. Patchy very low to moderate impacts are possible in this region of Lee County through Tuesday. No impacts are expected in any other Florida Counties today through Tuesday.

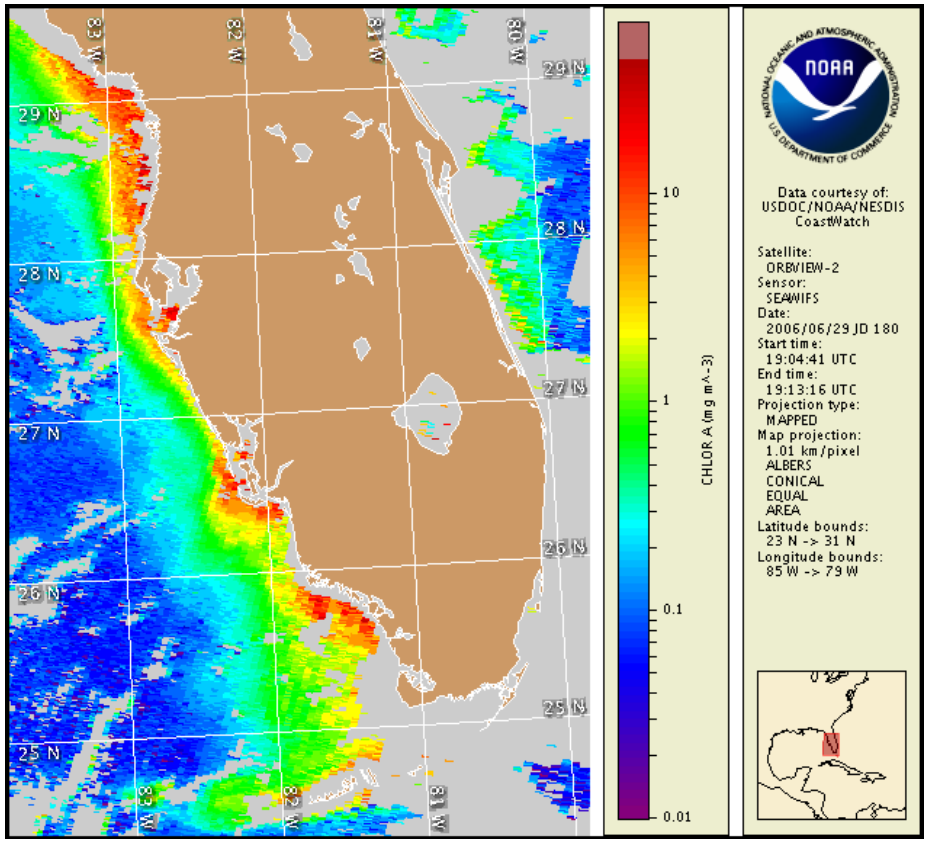
Analysis

This bulletin is being issued as supplemental for the Independence Day holiday weekend and to report a confirmed bloom in Lee County.

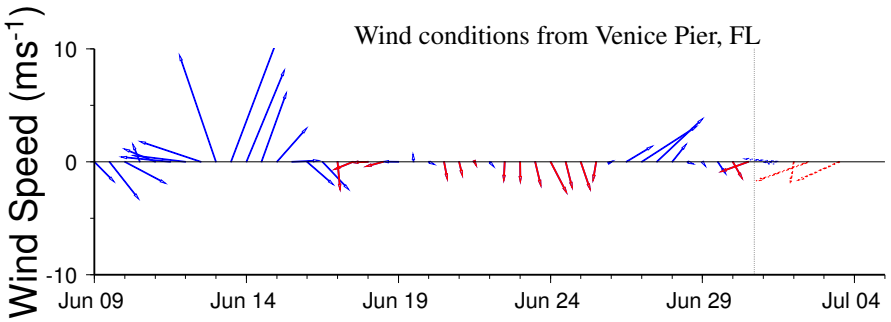
A harmful algal bloom has been confirmed at the coast in southern Lee County near Sanibel Island. *K. brevis* was identified in both surface and subsurface samples on 6/29 at the mouth of the Caloosahatchee River and inland of Sanibel Island. Surface samples range from 'Very Lowa'(river mouth) to 'Lowb'(just east of Sanibel Island), while subsurface sample concentrations range between 'Lowb'(river mouth) and 'Medium' (just east of Sanibel Island). This bloom is most likely attributed to a tropical storm induced intensification of residual *K. brevis* populations from a bloom that dissipated several months ago. Upwelling favorable conditions throughout the next several days may bring additional *K. brevis* to the surface, further intensifying the bloom and increasing the appearance of impacts in southeastern portions of Sanibel Island, San Carlos Bay and at the mouth of the Caloosahatchee River.

No further information is available concerning the *K. brevis* identified sample in Sarasota County on 6/18. Please see supplemental bulletin #35 for elevated chlorophyll information in this region.

~Fisher, Urizar, Bronder

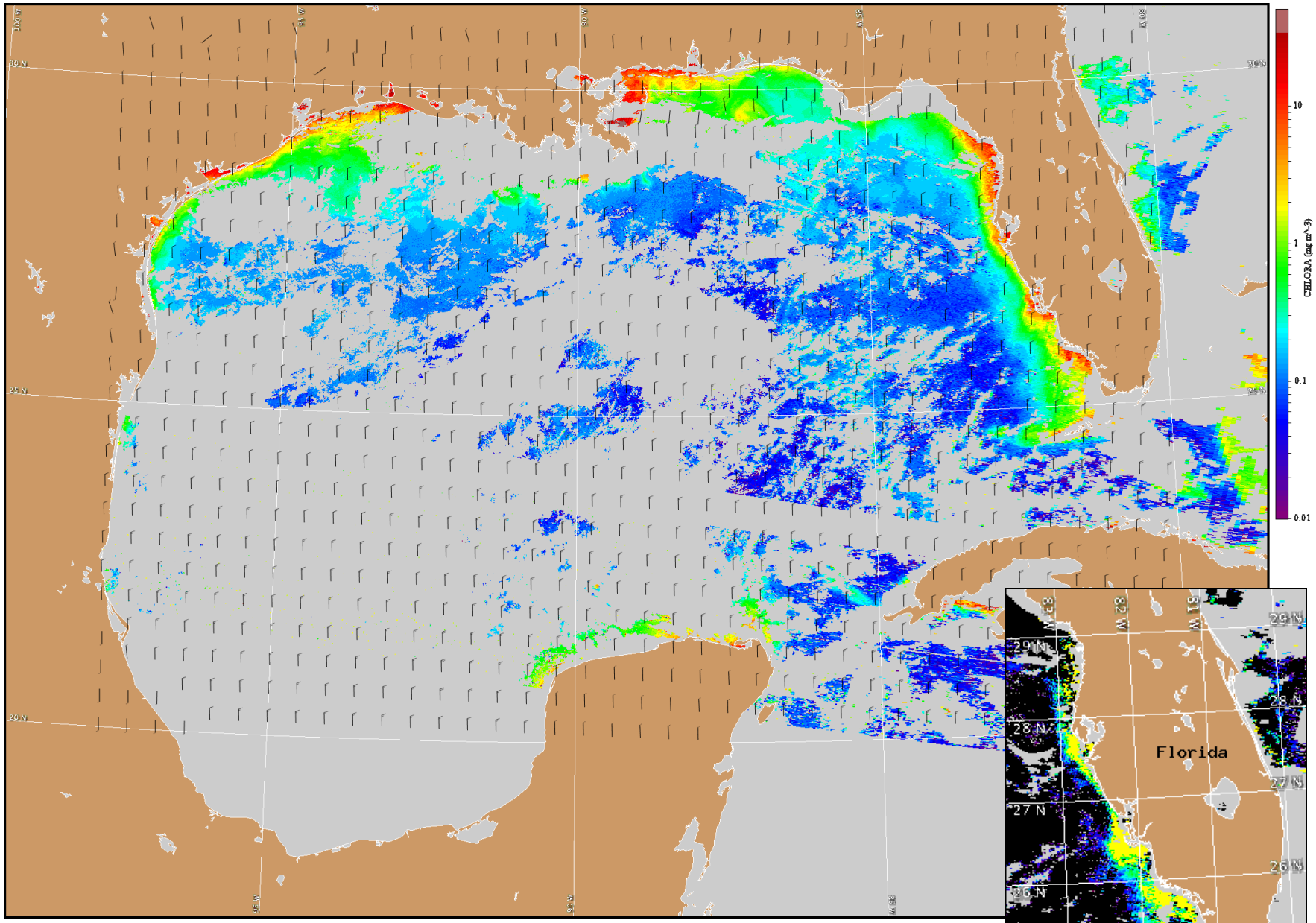


Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Easterly (5-10kts, 3-5m/s) winds today will become onshore near the coast in the afternoon and shift southeasterly tonight into Saturday at 10kts (5m/s). Easterlies will reappear Saturday night (10-15kts, 5-8m/s) and continue through Tuesday, with onshore winds near the coast in the afternoon on Sunday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for July 1, 2006 12Z.

Verifi ed HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).